

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and considering the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statements filed October 26, 2006 and July 10, 2007.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner indicate acceptance of the formal drawings.

Specification Objection

The Examiner objected to the specification contending that the title of the invention is not descriptive. Applicant submits the present amendment to the title obviates this objection.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 4 and 5 advising that the acronym PLU be rewritten as price look-up for clarification. Applicant submits the present amendments to claims 4 and 5 obviate this objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-12 are rejected as being indefinite for lacking antecedent basis. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection in view of the present amendments to claims 1-12.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by Balderrama et al. (US 5,806,071). Applicant traverses this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “***a key group master memory unit*** for storing key group master information of a plurality of product keys and a plurality of key groups;”

a displayed key group attribute information storage unit, for storing, as displayed key group attribute information, the key group master information of the at least one key group displayed on the touch panel; and

a display switching unit which, in response to a pressed switching key, receives from the key group master memory unit, key group master information that corresponds to the pressed switching key, and updates the displayed key group attribute information with the received key group master information.

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that Table A corresponds to both the key group master memory unit and the displayed key group attribute information storage unit.

However, Applicant submits that because the Table A cannot correspond to both of these units, this rejection is in error and should be withdrawn.

The reason Table A cannot correspond to both of these results is that claim 1 also requires that the displayed key group attribute information of the *displayed key group attribute information storage unit* is updated based on the received key group master information of the *a key group master memory unit*. Additionally, Applicant submits Balderrama fails to disclose a display switching unit which receives from the key group master memory unit key group master information and which also updates the displayed key group attribute information of the displayed key group attribute information storage unit with the received key group master information. Whether the Examiner alleges Table A or any other portion of Balderrama corresponds to the *key group master memory unit*, no portion of Balderama discloses any display switching unit that updates the displayed key group attribute information of a *displayed key group attribute information storage unit* with the received key group master information, let alone, in response to a pressed switching key. For instance, none of tables A, B and C disclosed in Balderama are updated in response to a pressed switching key. This combination of features is neither disclosed nor contemplated in Balderama.

Thus, Applicant submits claim 1 is allowable for at least this reason. Additionally, because claims 5 and 9 recited feature similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicant submits these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons set forth above. Further, Applicant submits claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10-12 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

New Claims

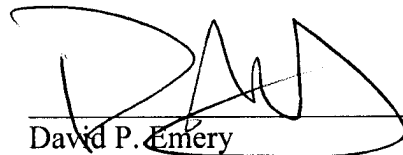
New claims 13-15 are hereby added by this Amendment and submitted to be allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 4, 2007